

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 2 and 4-24 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 8 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 6-18 and 21 are sought to be amended. Claim 3 is sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the text at page 20, lines 29-30 of the specification for improperly characterizing FIG. 4 as a flow chart rather than an apparatus. The Examiner has also objected to the text at page 20, line 37 and page 21, lines 5 and 7 for referring to element 6 of FIG. 4 as a "de-multiplexer" rather than a "multiplexer". Applicants have amended the specification, as well as claims 9, 10 and 14, to address these issues identified by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the specification be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 3 and 6-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the

subject matter which Applicants regard as their invention. Claim 3 has been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection of that claim moot. Claims 6-18 and 21 have been amended to address the issues set forth by the Examiner in support of these rejections, with the exception of those issues set forth below.

With respect to claim 9, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertion that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the claim term "the instruction fetch" in line 3 of claim 9 as originally filed, since line 2 of claim 9 as originally filed includes the term "an instruction fetch".

With respect to claim 18, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertion that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the claim term "the interrupt request" in lines 3-4 of claim 18 as originally filed, since line 2 of claim 18 as originally filed includes the term "an interrupt request".

With respect to claim 19, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertion that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the claim term "the interrupt request" in lines 3-4 of claim 19 as originally filed, since line 2 of claim 19 as originally filed includes the term "an interrupt request." With further respect to claim 19, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertion that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the claim term "the instruction fetch stage" in line 5 of claim 19 as originally filed, since claim 16 upon which claim 19 depends recites "an instruction fetch stage."

It has been assumed by Applicants that the rejection of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for providing insufficient antecedent basis for the claim term "the co-processor"

was actually directed to claim 21. Applicants have addressed this issue by changing the dependency of claim 21.

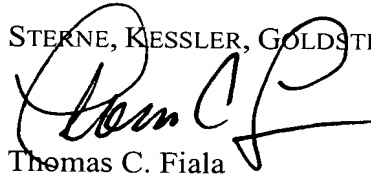
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 3 and 6-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

Based on the Amendment and Reply filed September 7, 2006, and the foregoing corrections, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Thomas C. Fiala
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 43,610

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1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

555339v1